

**Town of West Hartford  
Conservation and Environment Commission  
Meeting Minutes  
August 31, 2015, 7:00 P.M.  
Town Hall, Room 314**

Present: Brian McCarthy (chair), Beth Lander Morris, Scott Sebastian, Matt Macunas

Meeting called to order at 7:06 P.M.

1. The June 2015 meeting minutes were approved. (Motion by Sebastian, Second by Macunas)
2. Communications and News: Thomas Blatchley has vacated his position on CEC due to relocation outside town.
3. Old Business: none
4. New Business:

**27 Waterside Lane** - The Commission received application (IWWA #1036) of Walid Simaan (owner) requesting approval of an inland Wetlands and Watercourses Permit to conduct certain regulated activities which may have an adverse impact on a wetland and watercourse area. The applicant proposes landscape improvements including stump removal, installing new vegetation, seeding and stabilizing disturbed area within the 150 foot upland review area. (Submitted for IWWA receipt on September 9, 2015 and set directly for public hearing on September 9, 2015).

The application was presented by Mr. Mike Cegan, landscape architect from Richter & Cegan; and Mr. Michael Klein, soils and wetlands scientist from Environmental Planning Services. The applicant seeks to begin work immediately. There were no wetlands identified on the site by Mr. Klein. The subject watercourse pertaining to the site is Woodridge Lake.

During the presentation of this application it was communicated to the CEC that significant unpermitted activity was recently performed at the site. In general, the new owner hired a local contractor (McClelland) to mostly clear-cut the entire rear of the parcel consisting of 13 mature trees all entirely within the review area. Trees that were cut down included one American Beech, one cedar, one apple, and one maple, the remainder being pine trees. The property owner now seeks to plant a like number of new trees to replace the removed trees, re-grade and re-seed the entire rear yard and install a native fescue meadow (buffer) with herbaceous shrubs along the

edge of the waterline of Woodridge Lake. The parcel gently slopes toward the lake behind the house.

The applicant plans to excavate several existing tree stumps, fill and grade the holes, and replant the area as shown on "Remediation Plan" L-101. Stumps/roots will be removed from the site as opposed to burying on the site. An area proximate to the driveway will be graded and equipped with an anti-tracking pad, allowing for entry of heavy equipment. The equipment expected for use includes a bulldozer and a backhoe or excavator. The contractor asserts that only minimal-to-moderate dust control measures are needed, citing the fine grained soils being used and their tendency to be unsuitable for seeding when overly wet.

The Remediation Plan and several pictures that were provided to the CEC depict that sediment and erosion control measures (large silt sock) are presently installed on the site along the water's edge. Based on the photos and apparent minimal slope of the parcel, it does not appear that soil erosion is occurring at this time. The Remediation Plan also includes a second silt sock that will be placed parallel to and roughly 15 feet further inland (toward the house) prior to the start of work. The CEC believes these measures will provide adequate protection for erosion control during the site work. The CEC inquired if dust control measures would be used during the lawn replacement and tree stump removal actions and Mr. Klein expressed that the fine grained native soils on the site tend to hold significant moisture and he did not believe it to be an issue.

5. Meeting adjourned at 7:43 P.M. (Motion by Sebastian, Second by Lander Morris)